

in fine plumage and provoked much interest among local sportsmen, as nothing like it had been seen thereabouts before. It measured—length 34 inches, extent 45 inches, wing 12.25, tail 11, and bill, along the culmen, 3 inches. Last winter a farmer living in the valley a few miles below here brought me a tail feather with a crimped web. It was from a darter he had killed on one of the laguñas on the Arizona side of the river. Later I saw and counted seven of them. As they were out of gun range I did not disturb them. From what I can learn from people living near the water the bird is not uncommon in that portion of the valley.

I lived about twenty-three years in central southern Arizona and during that time I remember having seen but two Fulvous Tree Ducks (*Dendrocygna fulva*). They were brought to me from a lake near Buenos Ayres, about seventy miles southwest of Tucson. Here I find them fairly abundant during the winter months. In the spring of 1899 one was brought to me for identification. It had been killed on a small patch of water on the California desert. April 27 I counted 11 in one bunch at the mouth of the Gila. October 12 of that year I saw a lone bird on the mud flats in that same neighborhood. It was a male and was quite thin in flesh. I have a record of having seen 27 in four years. When feeding they thrust their mandibles deep in the soft mud on both sides and in front of them as they walk along.

May 5, 1899, 6 out of a bunch of 8 Autumnal Tree Ducks (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) were killed on the Santa Cruz, south of Tucson. They were the first and only ones I ever saw in Arizona. They were beautiful things. I did not find anyone that had previously seen them in Arizona.—HERBERT BROWN, Yuma, Arizona.

An Arctic Record for the American White Pelican.—An American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) was taken on the shores of Liverpool Bay, in the Arctic Ocean, in June or July, 1900, by an Eskimo who skinned it, removing nearly every bone in the process. The bird was secured there soon afterwards by the Rev. I. O. Stringer, now Bishop of Selkirk, who brought it to Toronto, and through the kindness of Mr. John Maughan the bird is now in my collection. Bishop Stringer tells me the bird was new to the Eskimo. Liverpool Bay is in Lat. 70°, Long. 128°. — JAMES H. FLEMING, Toronto, Ont.

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Unusual Nesting Site of the Black Duck (*Anas obscura*).—During the past two years I had the pleasure of discovering two instances of remarkable deviation from the hitherto well known and universally recognized nesting habits of our common Black Duck (*Anas obscura*). The first instance occurred June 10, 1904, when, on a small island in the St. Lawrence River, a pair of these ducks had taken possession of an old crow's nest, and on the date of discovery had laid ten eggs. The nest was saddled on a limb of a large elm, forty-five feet from the ground. With the exception of a liberal supply of down furnished by the bird the

nest was in its original condition and so completely was it concealed by the foliage that the presence of the duck in her snug retreat would never have been suspected had she not been accidentally observed flying to the tree. The difficulty I experienced in photographing the nest adds to the value of the excellent negative I secured.

April 29, 1905, I located the second nest; in this case, owing to the bareness of the trees, concealment was impossible. The duck had laid ten eggs in a last year's nest of the Red-shouldered Hawk in a basswood tree fifty feet up, and the appearance of this large bird sitting on her nest among the naked branches was truly most unique.

In the different works on American ornithology to which I have had access, none of the writers refer in any way to this phase of the bird's life, but in a book on English natural history entitled 'Lakes and Streams' by C. O. G. Napier, published in England in 1879, the writer speaks of the Mallard (*Anas boschas*) as having been found nesting "in a crow's nest at least thirty feet from the ground."

In the two cases I have cited the ducks successfully brought off their broods but by what means they conveyed them to the neighboring marsh I could not ascertain. Both nests were in trees overlooking extensive marshes and in different parts of the county being, possibly, twenty miles apart.—EDWIN BEAUPRÉ, *Kingston, Ont.*

Lesser Snow Geese in Michigan and Ontario.—In view of the few of these birds upon record, it seems advisable to announce the capture of two Lesser Snow Geese (*Chen hyperborea*) in this vicinity. The first one was taken Oct. 27, 1905, at the base of Point Pelée, by Mr. Sidney Stanlick of Leamington, Ont. The bird is an immature female in the dusky plumage and is probably a bird of the year. In plumage and measurements it appears to be typical, but the line of the culmen shows a variation due to either individual variation or else malformation. The bird had evidently been injured before Mr. Stanlick took it. It is now in the collection of Mr. Taverner, numbered 424.

The other bird was killed Nov. 5, 1905, by Mr. Frank Mather at Goose Creek, St. Clair Flats, as it passed over his blind in company with another bird which he called a "Black Brant" but which was perhaps another *Chen*. The goose is still in his possession.

We examined the bird in the taxidermy studio of Mr. L. J. Eppinger before it was mounted but, unhappily, not before it was skinned; consequently no length measurements could be taken nor the sex ascertained. Beyond all doubt, however, it is an adult male. Every effort was made to properly identify this bird, and a careful drawing was made of the bill and submitted to Dr. Louis B. Bishop who pronounced it identical with *hyperborea* specimens of his from the Dakotas. Mr. Taverner also compared the drawing with specimens in the collection of Mr. J. H. Fleming and found it to agree with specimens of *hyperborea* and quite different